

IN THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously presented) The printing system of claim 34, wherein the printer client further comprises a protection section for protecting the specified data against access from outside into a data transmission path to conduct image output, the received data, wherein the copyright protection level of the printer client is set in different levels according to the protection section.
3. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 2, wherein the server comprises:
 - an encrypting section for encrypting the specified data; and
 - the printer client further comprises:
 - a decrypting section for decrypting the encrypted data; and
 - an output section to print out in accordance with the encrypted data;
 - wherein the protection section protects the encrypted data, against outside access, in the data transmission path from the decrypting section to the output section.
4. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 34, wherein the output section is an image forming section for forming an image on a recording medium.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Previously presented) The printing system of claim 2, wherein the protection section comprises a physical cover member, which is provided in the printer client to cover the data transmission path for outputting the received specified data.

7. (Previously presented) The printing system of claim 2, wherein the protection section comprises a filter program software, which restricts, in the printer client, a destination section where the received specified data is transmitted.

8. (Previously presented) The printing system of claim 2, wherein the protection section comprises a combination of a physical cover, which is provided in the printer client to cover the data transmission path for outputting the received specified data member and a filter program software and a filter program software, which restricts, in the printer client, a destination section where the received specified data is transmitted.

9-10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) The printing system of claim 3, wherein the copyright protection level of the data in the comparison table is set in different levels in accordance with difficulty of decryption of the data.

12. (Previously presented) The printing system of claim 34, wherein the server further comprises an encrypting section for encrypting the data, and the printer client comprises a downloading section to download the encrypted data.

13. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 12, wherein the printer client comprises a decrypting section for decrypting the encrypted data, downloaded from the server system.

14. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 34, wherein the server executes a digital signature with an encryption key, uniquely assigned to the printer client, when the printer client performs an access to the server.

15. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 34, wherein the server executes a digital signature with an encryption key of an open key encryption method when the printer client performs an access to the server.

16. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 34, wherein the printer client executes a digital signature with an encryption key, uniquely assigned to the printer client, when said printer client performs an access to the server.

17. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 34, wherein the server comprises a memory section for storing a plurality of preformed data and specifies the data by selecting the data from the plurality of preformed data.

18. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 34, wherein service the server comprises a memory section for storing plurality of data, each of the plurality of data is preformed in correspondence with respective copyright protection level, and specifies the data by selecting the data from the plurality of data.

19. (Currently Amended) The printing system of claim 34, wherein the server comprises a generating section for generating data, corresponding to a copy right protection level of the printer client for sending the data to the printer client, so that the server specifies the data.

20. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 34, wherein the printer client comprises a search requesting section for sending a search request to the server and the server performs search for the data in response to the search request by the search requesting section.

21-26.(Canceled)

27. (Currently amended) The server apparatus of claim 39, wherein the server comprises a memory section for storing a plurality of preformed data and specifies the data by selecting the data from the plurality of preformed data.

28. (Currently amended) The server apparatus of claim 39, wherein the server comprises a memory section for storing plurality of data, each of which the plurality of data is preformed in correspondence with respective copyright protection level, and specifies data by selecting the data from said the plurality of data.

29. (Currently amended) The server apparatus of claim 39, wherein the server comprises a generating section for generating data, corresponding to a copy right protection level of the printer client for sending the data to the printer client, so that the server specifies the data.

30-33.(Canceled)

34. (Previously presented) A printing system with a server and printer clients connected to the server through a network, the printer clients requesting the server to send data, the printing system comprising:

the server comprising:

an acquiring section to acquire information regarding a copyright protection level of a printer client which requests the server to send data;

a specifying section to specify data to be sent corresponding to the copyright protection level of the printer client, the data being classified in different copyright protection levels according to a content of the data;

a sending section to send the specified data to the printer client; and

the printer client comprising:

a receiving section to receive the specified data sent from the server;

an output section to print out the received data,

wherein, the server further comprises a comparison table for recording a copyright protection level of the data and a copyright protection level of the printer client in relation to each other,

wherein the specifying section specifies the data to be sent with reference to the comparison table.

35. (Previously presented) The printing system of claim 34, wherein the copyright protection level of the printer client is a code showing the copy right protection level of the printer client.

36. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 34, wherein the data is an abstract data.

37. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 34, wherein the server further comprising:

a certifying section to certify a login request from a printer client.

38. (Currently Amended) A printer client apparatus connected to a server through a network, the printer client apparatus comprising:

a sending section to send a download request and information regard to copyright protection level of the printer client to the server, wherein the copyright protection level of the printer client being used in the server to specify data,

a downloading section to download the specified data from the server;

a protection section for protecting the specified data against access from outside to a data transmission path for outputting the received data, wherein the copyright protection level of the printer client is set in different levels according to the protection section; and

an output section to print out the downloading data.

39. (Currently Amended) A server apparatus connected to a plurality of printer clients through a network, so that the printer clients requesting ~~can request~~ the server apparatus to send data, the server apparatus comprising:

an acquiring section to acquire information regard to copyright protection level of the printer client which requests the server to send data;

a specifying section to specify data correspond to the copyright protection level of the printer client;

a sending section to send the specified data to the printer client,
wherein, the server further comprises a comparison table for recording a copyright protection level of the data and a copyright protection level of the printer client in relation to each other,
wherein the specifying section specifies the data to be sent with reference to the comparison table.

40. (Previously presented) A system with a server and a client connected to the server through a network, the client requesting the server to send data, comprising:

the server comprising:

an acquiring section to acquire information regard to copyright protection level of the client which requests the server to send data;

a specifying section to specify data to be sent correspond to the copyright protection level of the client;

a sending section to send the specified data to the client; and

the client comprising:

a receiving section to receive the specified data sent from the server; and

a protection section for protecting the specified data against access from outside to a data transmission path for outputting the received data, wherein the copyright protection level of the client is set in different levels according to the protection section,

wherein, the server further comprises a comparison table for recording a copyright protection level of the data and a copyright protection level of the client in relation to each other,

wherein the specifying section specifies the data to be sent with reference to the comparison table.